

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

02-20-87

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Jay Dayton Smith House

AND/OR COMMON

N/A

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

624 South Sixth Street

CITY, TOWN

N/A NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Las Vegas

N/A VICINITY OF

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Nevada

32

Clark

003

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

\_\_\_DISTRICT

\_\_\_PUBLIC

\_\_\_OCCUPIED

\_\_\_AGRICULTURE

\_\_\_MUSEUM

☒ BUILDING(S)

☒ PRIVATE

\_\_\_UNOCCUPIED

☒ COMMERCIAL

\_\_\_PARK

\_\_\_STRUCTURE

\_\_\_BOTH

☒ WORK IN PROGRESS

\_\_\_EDUCATIONAL

\_\_\_PRIVATE RESIDENCE

\_\_\_SITE

N/A PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

\_\_\_ENTERTAINMENT

\_\_\_RELIGIOUS

\_\_\_OBJECT

\_\_\_IN PROCESS

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

\_\_\_GOVERNMENT

\_\_\_SCIENTIFIC

\_\_\_BEING CONSIDERED

\_\_\_YES: UNRESTRICTED

\_\_\_INDUSTRIAL

\_\_\_TRANSPORTATION

\_\_\_NO

\_\_\_MILITARY

\_\_\_OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Jeanne Smith Stewart and Cassandra Smith

STREET & NUMBER

1746 Mandeville Lane

CITY, TOWN

Los Angeles

N/A VICINITY OF

STATE

California 90049

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clark County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

309 South Third Street

CITY, TOWN

Las Vegas

STATE

Nevada 89101

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

1984 Clark County Historic Property Survey

DATE

June 1984

\_\_\_FEDERAL \_\_\_STATE \_\_\_COUNTY ☒ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Nevada Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Capitol Complex, Carson City, Nevada 89710

## CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED  
☐ ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

## Summary

The nomination for the Jay Dayton Smith House incorporates two contributing buildings; a single-family dwelling and an accompanying, single story, single bay garage. The Jay Dayton Smith House at 624 South Sixth Street in Las Vegas, Nevada is an unaltered, typical Spanish Colonial Revival styled residence built in 1931-32. Modest compared to houses in major cities, the Smith House is elaborate for the Las Vegas of the early 1930s. The one story with basement, frame dwelling has a typical low pitched, gabled and flat, red tiled roof; irregular massing with a central round tower with a low pitched, red tiled conical roof; and asymmetrical facades of white stucco. The front elevation has both round and pointed arches. The J.D. Smith House is notable for Las Vegas because it was designed by an architect. Designed by Warner & Nordstrom, it was built by the Hampton Brothers Construction Company.

Located to the rear of the dwelling is a detached, single story, single bay, frame garage parged in stucco. This building is stylistically similar to the J. D. Smith House and incorporates central, double vertical plank garage doors on its principal elevation. These doors include ornamental, wrought iron strap hinges. The principal elevation of the building includes a pent roof sheathed in tile. The remainder of the building terminates in a flat roof.

## Site

Built on three lots in the South Addition, the house is situated in a residential neighborhood which is rapidly changing to office and commercial use. Some of the larger houses, built between 1927 when the area was platted and the 1950s when the subdivision was finally built out, have been converted into offices and small shops. Some of the more modest buildings have been razed for new, larger office buildings. The neighborhood presently remains largely residential in character.

The house (40' x 52'), the north wing wall, the south low wall, and the carport span the 75' width of the lot. The wing wall extending to the north enclose the small sideyard while the carport and stuccoed low wall extends the house to the southern boundary of the site. A one car garage, also built in 1931-32 in the same style and detail of the house, is located west of the carport near the back of the lot.

## Exterior

The intersecting roofs, the arches, and the recesses combine with the asymmetrical massing of the front facade to display the simple complexity of the style. The line of the north wing wall and living room wall projects slightly from the dominant line of the facade. The wing wall is pierced by a round arched entry whose wooden door leads to the narrow, north side yard. A low wall with entry fronts the small patio while the carport and living room wall form the sides. A recessed, covered open porch is directly behind the patio; the main entrance is through the north side of the porch. The patio wall continues into the carport with its round arched vehicle passage covered by a front facing gabled, low pitched, red tiled roof with false chimney. A low wall connects the carport with the south property boundary.

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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received
date entered

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The white stucco walls are pierced by arched and rectangular openings. An ogee arched window opening is the focal window on the front facade. All the other window openings are rectangular in shape with no surrounds. The thirty-one original windows are all framed in wood and are a combination of fixed, casement, and double hung windows. The three exterior entries have eight paneled, wooden doors. The front door is generous and original. The kitchen and basement doors have been replaced with appropriate eight paneled wooden doors. A canted bay and chimney project from the north wall.

The front portion of the house is covered with an intersecting gabled roof of Mission type red tiles laid regularly. The rafter ends are exposed and painted a dark brown to contrast the white stucco walls. The rear portion of the building is covered with a built up, flat roof. The slight parapet walls surrounding the flat roof are topped with red tiles.

The modest exterior decoration includes a wrought iron weather vane topping the tower, wrought iron light fixtures, weep holes in the tower, and curvilinear gussets between the short patio walls and the carport wall.

**Interior**

The interior walls and ceilings are finished with a rough textured plaster which is painted white. The living room is the most elaborate. The rest of the rooms are modest in decoration with arched, recessed niches and arched doorways as the most common decorations. The house retains its original interior four panel wooden doors with original hardware and original dark wood built-ins.

The living room is sunken with a doweled, random width, hard wood floor. The major focus of the room is the fireplace which is sheathed in white plaster to integrate it into the rest of the wall and is decorated with elaborate decorative ceramic tile. Round arched niches are above and to each side of the fireplace. The dark wood, trussed beams elaborate the cathedral ceilings. The original wrought iron curtain rods remain. Patterned ceramic tiles decorate the risers leading to the dining room and the rest of the house.

The original yellow and green tiles and dark wood built-ins remain in the bathroom.

The basement has a red, coursed, concrete floor and original interior wood doors.

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1931-32 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Hampton Brothers/Warner & Nordstrom

# STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Jay Dayton Smith House, located at 624 South Sixth Street in Las Vegas is significant as a locally outstanding example of Spanish Colonial Revival style residential architecture (Criteria C). The building and its accompanying garage are located in a cohesive residential neighborhood surrounding the Art Deco style, Las Vegas High School. The principal buildings of the High School were listed in the National Register on September 24, 1986.

## Elaboration

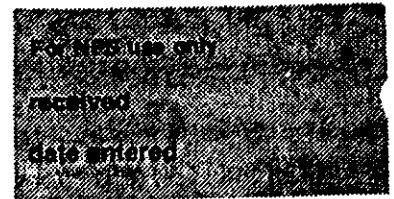
The J. D. Smith House is exemplary of the Spanish Colonial Revival style in Las Vegas with its irregular massing, asymmetrical facades, and red tiled, low pitched gabled and flat, red tiled roofs. The stuccoed exterior is pierced by round and pointed arches on the front facade. Its exterior details include a round tower, a wing wall enclosing the sideyards, and a carport with arched entry. The interior boasts a sunken living room with a timbered truss cathedral ceiling, a central fireplace with decorative trim, and a random width plank floor. Built in 1931-32, the structure survives intact and has undergone no major changes.

The J. D. Smith House is a substantial example of the Spanish Colonial Revival style, a popular style in Las Vegas during the 1930s. 28 other residential structures and 10 apartment and commercial buildings have been identified as designed in the Spanish Colonial Revival or Mission Revival styles for the 1984 Clark County Historic Property Survey. The Smith House is one of four elaborate Spanish Colonial Revival styled residences included in the survey. The three Spanish Colonial Revival styled residences which rival the J. D. Smith House in size, scale, and details are the Whitehead Residence at 333 North Seventh Street (Built in 1922, altered 1955, 1965), the Foremaster House at 701 South Seventh Street (Built in 1927, altered 1942, 1945), and the Henderson House at 704 South Ninth Street (Built 1930). The J. D. Smith House is the only one of the four which has had no modification of its massing or detail.

Las Vegas was founded in 1905 by the San Pedro, Los Angeles and Salt Lake Railroad Company as a division point for its main line between Salt Lake City and Los Angeles. The railroad laid out the city and formed the Las Vegas Land and Water Company to manage the townsite. Las Vegas was a small railroad company town until the late 1920s

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National Park Service

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when the economy began to diversify. (The population was 945 in 1910 and 2304 in 1920.) Congress passed the Boulder Canyon Project Act in 1928 assuring the construction of a dam across the Colorado River. Las Vegas, with its rail access, became the main supply center for the dam site some 20 miles away. In 1930 construction of the dam began and Las Vegas' population swelled to 5,165. New subdivisions were platted between 1928 and 1934 including the South Addition where Dr. Smith purchased three lots. Dr. Jay Dayton Smith (1894-1984), a dentist, was born in Monona, Iowa and settled in Las Vegas in 1926. Smith subsequently became a community leader particularly active in the field of Education. He served on the Clark County School District Board from 1935-1953. In 1964 his commitment to local education was honored when the first junior high school in Las Vegas was named the J. D. Smith Junior High School. In 1931, the date of construction of the Smith House, Las Vegas experienced the most active year to date for construction of all types of buildings. The Jay Dayton Smith House is significant for its association with the City's first major building boom.

The Jay Dayton Smith House was designed by architects Warner and Nordstrom and built by the Hampton Brothers, contractors. The original drawings produced by Warner & Nordstrom indicate that they were Las Vegans; however, there are no records of where they lived or worked in Las Vegas. A literature search does not show them as prominent architects in southern California or as Bureau of Reclamation architects working on Hoover Dam. The four Hampton brothers operated Hampton Brothers Construction Company. The 1984 Clark County Property Survey cites the Hampton Brothers as "the most successful venture in the local building trade" in the 1930s. Hampton Brothers Construction Company built many other houses in the area. Identified in the 1984 Clark County Historic Property Survey are the Nevada Electric Company at 201 South Bridger, 327 North Ninth Street, 816 South Third Street and 818 South Third Street.

Dr. Smith lived in the 624 South 6th Street house until 1947 and his wife continued to live in the house until her death in 1970. The property remains in the family and is presently owned by Jeanne Smith Stewart and Cassandra J. Smith Vincent. Dr. Smith's office was on the second floor of the Mesquite Building at 103 Fremont. The building has been razed.

Conclusion

Although modest in comparison to many national examples of the Spanish Colonial Revival style, the Jay Dayton Smith House is an outstanding local example of the style. Constructed during the major Las Vegas building boom in the 1930's, the Jay Dayton Smith House is one of the few Spanish Colonial Revival style dwellings to survive from the period and the only such dwelling to survive intact.

Architectural drawings . 624 South Sixth Street by War. & Lordstrom.  
Directory of Las Vegas, 1926, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1935-36, 1943-44  
Interview with Les Smith, son of J. D. Smith, May 16, 1986.  
Obituary of J. D. Smith, Las Vegas Sun, 12/29/84, p. 2B  
Records of Hampton Brothers Construction Company  
Records of Jeanne Smith Stewart, daughter of J. D. Smith

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .24

UTM REFERENCES

A 1 1 6 6 6 9 4 0 4 0 3 2 0 0  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B                              
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C                              
D                              
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 20-22, Block 24, South Addition, Official Records, Clark County,  
Nevada, commonly known as 624 South Sixth Street, Las Vegas, Nevada.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A			
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

Edited by Kathryn M. Kuranda, Architectural  
Historian, Nevada Division of Historic Preservation  
and Archeology

NAME / TITLE

Ana Beth Koval  
ORGANIZATION

Rainshadow Associates  
STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 352  
CITY OR TOWN

Carson City

DATE

July 31, 1986

TELEPHONE

(702) 849-1438

STATE

Nevada 89702

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL  

STATE  

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I  
hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the  
criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

1/2/87  
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

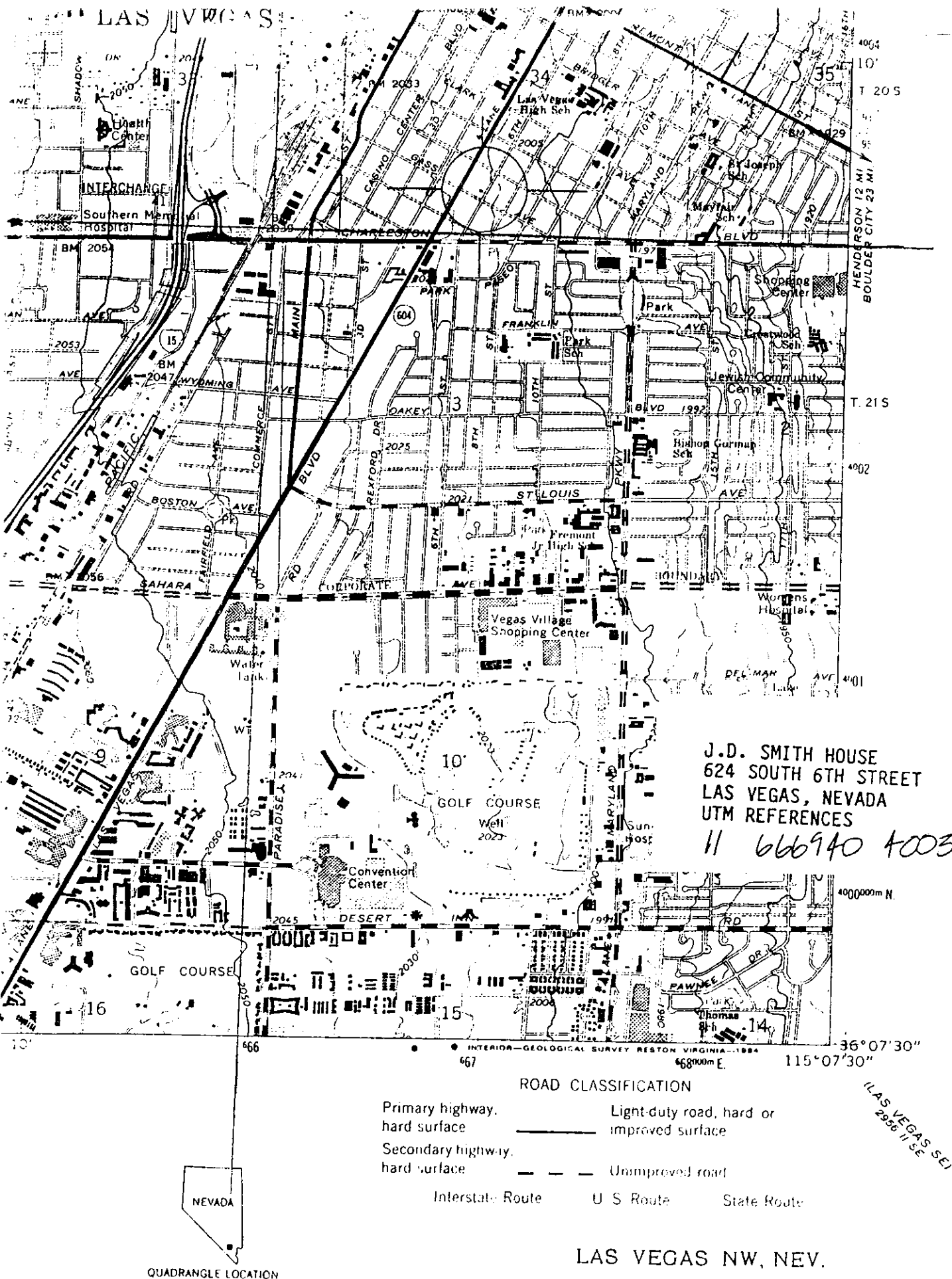
DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



J.D. SMITH HOUSE  
624 SOUTH 6TH STREET  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA  
UTM REFERENCES

11 666940 4003200

